

13 DEC 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

FROM : Chief, Technical Accounting Staff

SUBJECT : Electronic Data Processing in NSA

REFERENCE: Memorandum for the Record dated 3 October 1957  
by Chief, Technical Accounting Staff

1. In accordance with the reference, arrangements were made for representatives of NSA to present to an interested group of CIA personnel a report on their use of electronic data processing.

2. The Chief, Data Processing Systems Division, Office of the Comptroller, NSA, assisted by 3 of his immediate staff, made this presentation in Room 1402 I Building. The meeting was attended by approximately 70 representatives of this Agency, principally from the DD/S component. Representatives of the following offices were present: Audit, Logistics, Personnel, Management, various components of the Office of the Comptroller, and a few from the DD/P area.

3. The NSA has obtained an IBM 705 high speed computer which was originally justified for use in connection with its operational requirements. The Director of NSA, however, determined that this machine could also be utilized for performing administrative operations and authorized the establishment of a staff within NSA to accomplish this purpose. The Data Processing Systems Division, composed of approximately 22 or 23 persons, was established. This staff includes about 20 systems' analysts who were for the most part selected from personnel of NSA who were familiar with its operational activities. In view of the availability of the 705 computer, NSA was not required to justify the acquisition of a computer for its administrative applications.

4. Up to the current date, NSA has transferred to the 705 computer its payroll and leave procedures. It also contemplates utilizing the 705 computer for performing procurement and supply operations and personnel and security operations. The latter 2 types of operations have not as yet been implemented on the 705 computer inasmuch as the preliminary studies required for such implementation have not been completed. Such implementation will require extensive changes in the procedures now followed in order to permit the most effective use of the computer.

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5. It is believed that those attending the NSA presentation obtained the general benefit of another Agency's thinking on this very important subject; however, since NSA has not actually applied the 705 computer to any operations other than payroll and leave at this time, it was not possible, as was expected, to learn the experience of NSA with respect to other applications. Information as to the general approach being made by NSA to the application of the computer to its administrative procedures was of interest to those present and may be of some advantage in the Agency's future consideration.



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Distribution:

1 - Deputy Comptroller ✓